June 26, 2007

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW Washington, DC 20554 JUL - 6 2007

FCC - MAILROOM

Re: Docket Item #07-16

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Dear Secretary:

It is my understanding a proposal is now before the Federal Communications Commission that would provide greater access to the internet nationwide.

I presently work in the financial services sector counseling clients on managing their wealth and advising them on financial manners. I have also worked in a large telecommunications company that has a worldwide presence. And I am a board member of the Dallas Chapter of Texas Association of Business, an organization of small and large business dedicated to improving business opportunities in our state. So I have had the opportunity to work in both large and small businesses and interact with many businesses on a daily basis.

Having easy and affordable access to the internet is a growing issue for business as well as our society. Where once it was an option, today broadband access is becoming a necessity in how we do business in our country. It is also important in the education of our children. I hope the FCC will give serious consideration to how we as a nation can provide easier and affordable access to the Internet for all Americans including businesses and consumers.

According to information provided to me by the Coalition for Free Broadband Now, only 41 percent of students from households that make less than \$20,000 use the Internet, among Hispanic and African American children, the figure is only slightly higher. While I regularly use the internet to stay in touch with clients, do research, or interact with other businesses, many small to medium size businesses do not. Although small businesses make up most of the businesses in the United States, only 5.4 million small and SOHO business have broadband connections impacting their ability to compete in a worldwide economy.

The FCC now has a proposal under advisement from M2Z Networks. I hope the FCC will give this proposal as well as others that will enhance broadband access in the United States its serious consideration. This is an important issue that deserves your consideration.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Billie Meador

CC: FCC Chairman Kevin Martin

United State Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson

Meaker

United States Senator John Cornyn

United States Representative Joe Barton

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## Addresses:

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